

الاجتماع ونبد الفرقة

Unity & the Abandonment of Parties

With Appendix

Democracy: A Modern Day Cause of Disunity

By:

Shaykh Saalih Fawzaan ibn 'Abdullaah Al-Fawzaan

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Biography of Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan

He is the noble Shaykh Dr. Saalih ibn Fawzaan ibn 'Abdullaah from the family of Fawzaan from the people of *ash-Shamaasiyyah*.

He was born in 1354 A.H./1933 C.E. His father died when he was young so he was brought up by his family. He learned the Noble Qur'aan, the basics of reading and writing with the imaam of the masjid of the town, who was a definitive reciter. He was the noble Shaykh Hamood Ibn Sulaymaan at-Talaal, who was later made a judge in the town of Dariyyah (not Dar'iyah in Riyaadh) in the region of Qaseem.

He later studied at the state school when it opened in *ash-Shamaasiyyah* in the year 1369 A.H./1948 C.E. He completed his studies at the Faysaliyyah School in Buraydah in the year 1371 A.H./1950 C.E. and was then appointed an infant school teacher. Then he joined the educational institute in Buraydah when it opened in the year 1373 A.H./1952 C.E., and graduated from there in the year 1377 A.H./1956 C.E. He then joined the Faculty of *Sharee'ah* (at the University of Imaam Muhammad) in Riyaadh and graduated in 1381 A.H./1960 C.E. Thereafter he gained his Masters degree in *Fiqh*, and later a Doctorate from the same faculty, also specializing in *Fiqh*.

After his graduation from the Faculty of *Sharee'ah*, he was appointed a teacher within the educational institute in Riyaadh, then transferred to teaching in the Faculty of *Sharee'ah*. Later, he transferred to teaching at the Department for Higher Studies within the Faculty of the Principles of the Religion (*Usoolud-Deen*). Then he transferred to teaching at the Supreme Court of Justice, where he was appointed the head. He then returned to teaching there after his period of headship came to an end. Thereafter made a member

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of the Permanent Committee for Islaamic Research and *Fataawa*, where he continues to this day.

The noble Shaykh is a member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and member of the *Fiqh* Committee in Makkah (part of *ar-Raabitah*), and member of the Committee for Supervision of the Callers (*Du'aat*) in *Hajj*, whilst also presiding over (his main role) membership of the Permanent Committee for Islaamic Research and *Fataawa*. He is also the *Imaam*, *Khateeb* and teacher at the Prince Mut'ib Ibn 'Abdul-'Azeez masjid in *al-Malzar*.

He also takes part in responding to questions on the radio program "*Noorun 'alad-Darb*", as he also takes part in contributing to a number of Islaamic research publications at the Council for (Islaamic) Research, Studies, Theses and *Fataawa* which are then collated and published. The noble Shaykh also takes part in supervising a number of theses at the Masters Degree and Doctorate level.

He has a number of students of knowledge who frequent his regular gatherings and lessons.

He himself studied at the hands of a number prominent scholars and jurists, the most notable of whom were:

- The noble Shaykh 'Abdul-'Azeez ibn Baaz ؒ;
- The noble Shaykh 'Abdullaah ibn Humayd ؒ;
- The great Shaykh Muhammad al-Ameen ash-Shanqeetee ؒ;
- The noble Shaykh 'Abdur-Razzaaq 'Afeefee ؒ;
- The noble Shaykh Saalih Ibn 'Abdur-Rahmaan as-Sukaytee;
- The noble Shaykh Saalih Ibn Ibraaheem al-Bulayhee;
- The noble Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Subayyal;
- The noble Shaykh 'Abdullaah Ibn Saalih al-Khulayfee;

- The noble Shaykh Ibraaheem Ibn 'Ubayd al-'Abd al-Muhsin;
- The noble Shaykh Saalih al-'Alee an-Naasir;

He also studied at the hands of a number of scholars from al-Azhar University (Egypt) who specialized in *Hadeeth*, *Tafseer* and the 'Arabic language.

He has played a major role in calling to Allaah, teaching, giving *Fataawa*, *Khutbahs* and knowledgeable refutations.

His books number many; however the following are just a handful which includes:

- *Sharh al-'Aqeedatul Waasitiyyah*,
- *Al-Irshaad ilas-Saheehil-l'tigaad*,
- *al-Mulakhkhas al-Fiqhee*,
- *Foods and the Rulings regarding Slaughtering and Hunting*, which is part of his Doctorate.
- They also include *at-Tahqeeqaat al-Mardiyyah* in Inheritance which is part of his Masters degree.
- Further titles include *Rulings relating to the Believing Women*, and a refutation of Yoosuf Qaradaawi's book *al-Halaal wal-Haraam*.¹

¹ Taken from www.fatwa-online.com

مَقَامَاتُ

INTRODUCTION

All praise is due to Allaah upon His favors and benevolence, and may the peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, his companions, and many salutations to them.

As for what follows: Indeed gathering the Muslims and discarding separation between the Muslims is a lofty principle from the principles which Allaah, ﷻ the Most High, commanded with as well as the Prophet ﷺ.

Allaah ﷻ Says,

﴿وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا﴾

“And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allaah (i.e. this Qur’aan), and be not divided among yourselves...”

[Soorah Aali ‘Imraan (3):103]

﴿وَلَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ تَفَرَّقُوا وَاخْتَلَفُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمْ

الْبَيِّنَاتُ وَأُولَئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾

“And be not as those who divided and differed among themselves after the clear proofs had come to them. It is they for whom there is an awful torment.”

[Soorah Aali ‘Imraan (3):105]

The Prophet ﷺ said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْضَى لَكُمْ ثَلَاثًا: أَنْ تَعْبُدُوهُ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَأَنْ تَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا، وَأَنْ تُنَاصِحُوا مَنْ وَلَّاهُ اللَّهُ أَمْرَكُمْ

“Indeed Allaah is pleased with three things from you: He is pleased that you worship Him and do not associate anything with Him, and that you take hold of the rope of Allaah altogether, and that you give good counsel to the one to whom Allaah gives command over you.”²

As the Salaf ﷺ said, What is known is that there is no religion except with unifying speech and there is no leadership and guidance except in hearing and obeying.

² Collected in *al-Muwatta* of Imaam Maalik [2/990], Book of Speech, Chapter: Waste of money and the possessor of two-faces. Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim* [3/1340 No. 1715], Book of Judgments, Chapter: Forbidding Frequent Questions with no need. Both of them are narrated by Aboo Hurayrah ﷺ.

TN: Complete Hadeeth: Maalik related to me from Suhayl ibn Abee Saalih from his father from Aboo Hurayrah that the Messenger of Allaah, may Allaah bless him and grant him peace, said, “Allaah is pleased with three things from you, and He is angry with three things from you. He is pleased that you worship Him and do not associate anything with Him, and that you take hold of the rope of Allaah altogether, and that you give good counsel to the one to whom Allaah gives command over you. He is angry with you for gossip, squandering property, and asking too many questions.”

CHAPTER 1

Condition of the 'Arabs Prior to the Prophet's Mission & After It

Indeed, prior to the Prophet's ﷺ mission, the 'Arabs were separated. Murdering one another and long wars arose between them like *Daahas* and *Ghabaraa*' War³ and *Bu'aath*⁴, and other great wars, some of which lasted for a hundred years or more. Within these wars there was strife and hatred, and raids would continually erupt until Allaah ﷻ bestowed upon them the Prophet's ﷺ mission and he called them to worship Allaah ﷻ alone without any partners and to be united brothers. Those who were blessed by Allaah responded to his call and gathered under the banner of *Tauheed* and the leadership of the Prophet ﷺ. The enmity which had been among them disappeared as they became loving brothers after they had been infected with discord. Allaah ﷻ reminded them of this blessing in His Speech:

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ

مُسْلِمُونَ﴾ (١٦٠) وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا

وَأَذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ

فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَى شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ ءَايَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٦١﴾ وَلَتَكُنْ مِنْكُمْ أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٦٢﴾ وَلَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ تَفَرَّقُوا وَاخْتَلَفُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْبَيِّنَاتُ وَأُولَئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿١٦٣﴾ يَوْمَ تَبْيَضُّ وُجُوهٌ وَتَسْوَدُّ وُجُوهٌ فَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ اسْوَدَّتْ وُجُوهُهُمْ أَكْفَرْتُمْ بَعْدَ إِيمَانِكُمْ فَذُوقُوا الْعَذَابَ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْفُرُونَ ﴿١٦٤﴾ وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ ابْيَضَّتْ وُجُوهُهُمْ فَفِي رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿١٦٥﴾﴾

"O you who believe! Fear Allaah (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islaam [as Muslims (with complete submission to Allaah)]. And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allaah (i.e. this Qur'aan), and be not divided among yourselves, and remember Allaah's Favor on you, for you were enemies one to another but He joined your hearts together, so that, by His Grace, you became brethren (in Islaamic Faith), and you were on the brink of a pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus Allaah makes His *Ayaat* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.)

³ TN: This was a war between the 'Abbaas & Zabyan tribes. They raced their horses, named *Daahas* and *Ghabaraa*'. One tribe felt like the other tribe infringed upon the rules to win the race and this began a feud which lasted forty years.

⁴ This refers to a war between two tribes of the *Ansaar*, the *Khazraj* and the 'Aws, tribe before Islaam.

clear to you, that you may be guided. Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good (Islaam), enjoining *Al-Ma'roof* (i.e. Islaamic Monotheism and all that Islaam orders one to do) and forbidding *Al-Munkar* (polytheism and disbelief and all that Islaam has forbidden). And it is they who are the successful. And be not as those who divided and differed among themselves after the clear proofs had come to them. It is they for whom there is an awful torment. On the Day (i.e. the Day of Resurrection) when some faces will become white and some faces will become black; as for those whose faces will become black (to them will be said): "Did you reject Faith after accepting it? Then taste the torment (in Hell) for rejecting Faith." And for those whose faces will become white, they will be in Allaah's Mercy (Paradise), therein they shall dwell forever."

[Soorah Aali 'Imraan (3):102-107]

Ibn 'Abbaas ؓ said:

تَسْوَدُّ وُجُوهُ أَهْلِ الْفُرْقَةِ وَالْإِخْتِلَافِ وَتَبْيَضُّ وُجُوهُ أَهْلِ
الْاجْتِمَاعِ وَالْإِتِّلَافِ

"This is when the faces of followers of the *Sunnah* and the *Jamaa'ah* will radiate with whiteness, and the faces of followers of *Bid'ah* (innovation) and division will be darkened."⁵

⁵ Refer to *Tafseer al-Qur'aan al-'Adheem* from Ibn Katheer [2/92]

CHAPTER 2

Concerning the Statement, "What Brings People Together & Unites Their Hearts is Religion"

Allaah ﷻ Says:

﴿وَاذْكُرُوا إِذْ أَنْتُمْ قَلِيلٌ مُسْتَضْعَفُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ تَخَافُونَ
أَنْ يَتَخَطَّفَكُمُ النَّاسُ فَفَاوَنَّاكُمْ وَأَيَّدَكُمْ بِنَصْرِهِ وَزَقَّكُمْ مِّنَ
الطَّيِّبَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ﴾

"And remember when you were few and were reckoned weak in the land, and were afraid that men might kidnap you, but He provided a safe place for you, strengthened you with His Help, and provided you with good things so that you might be grateful."

[Sooratul-Anfaal (8):26]

Allaah ﷻ Says:

﴿هُوَ الَّذِي أُيِّدَكَ بِنَصْرِهِ وَبِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ﴾ وَالْفَافُ بَيْنَ
قُلُوبِهِمْ لَوْ أَنْفَقْتَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مَا أَلْفَتَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِهِمْ
وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ أَلْفَ بَيْنَهُمْ إِنَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ﴾

"And if they intend to deceive you, then verily, Allaah is All-Sufficient for you. It is He Who has supported you

with His Help and with the believers. And He has united their (i.e. believers') hearts. If you had spent all that is in the earth, you could not have united their hearts, but Allaah has united them. Certainly He is All-Mighty, All-Wise."

[Sooratul-Anfaal (8):62-63]

Nothing unites the people except this religion, as Imaam Maalik ibn Anas rah said:

لَا يَصْلُحُ آخِرُ هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ إِلَّا بِمَا صَلَحَ بِهِ أَوَّلُهَا

"The affairs of the latter generation of this nation can never be corrected except by that which corrected the affairs of the earlier generations of this nation."

So, nothing can bring people's hearts together and unite them except the correct belief that came with Prophet Muhammad rah.

Nothing can gather the hearts and bring peace among people except the belief in Allaah and His Messenger. That is the reason why people gathered around Prophet Muhammad rah and became one nation revered by the other nations of the world. The religion of Allaah (Islam) spread in the East and the West because of gathering and aligning upon *Tawheed*.

Allaah rah Says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِذَا لَقِيتُمْ فِئَةً فَاثْبُتُوا وَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ
كَثِيرًا لَّعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾ وَأَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَا

تَنَزَعُوا فَنَفْسُلُوا وَتَذْهَبَ رِيحُكُمْ وَأَصْبِرُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ

الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿٤١﴾

"O you who believe! When you meet (an enemy) force, take a firm stand against them and remember the Name of Allaah much (both with tongue and mind), so that you may be successful. And obey Allaah and His Messenger rah, and do not dispute (with one another) lest you lose courage and your strength departs, and be patient. Surely, Allaah is with those who are *As-Saabiroon* (the patient)."

[Sooratul-Anfaal (8):45-46]

CHAPTER 3

A Historical Account of Events After the Death of the Prophet ﷺ & the Succession (The Caliphate)

When the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ died, differing occurred between the Sahaabah ؓ as to who was to assume leadership after the Prophet ﷺ. Their differing soon ended and disappeared and they agreed on choosing Aboo Bakr As-Siddeeq ؓ and they paid homage to him upon hearing and obeying, and he was the best leader after the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ. That was the state of the Rightly Guided Caliphate during the rule of Aboo Bakr, 'Umar, and 'Uthmaan ؓ. Then during the end of 'Uthmaan's rule, the Jews plotted against the Muslims. They wanted the Muslims to fall into differing amongst themselves. They concealed among them a Jew called 'Abdullaah ibn Saba', who started to incite people against 'Uthmaan, Commander of the Believers.

Foolish people from different lands gathered around him ('Abdullaah bin Saba') and laid siege to 'Uthmaan in his house. They allowed themselves to spill his blood and assassinate him ؓ. The Muslims fell into severe differing in spite of the fact they pledged allegiance to the fourth Rightly Guided Khaleefah, 'Alee ibn Abee Taalib ؓ. But the Jews continued their plot to spread wickedness among the Muslims. People disagreed with 'Alee until he was murdered also. The rule turned to his son Al-Hasan who abdicated in favor of Mu'aawiyah. With his resignation, people gathered around Mu'aawiyah. That year was called the year of the Jamaa'ah. The Commander of the Believers, Mu'aawiyah, ruled people with justice and wisdom and brought all Muslims together during his rule. What the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ had said became true. He ﷺ said to Al-Hasan ibn 'Alee,

إِنَّ ابْنِي هَذَا سَيِّدٌ وَسَيُصْلِحُ اللَّهُ بِهِ بَيْنَ طَائِفَتَيْنِ عَظِيمَتَيْنِ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

"Verily, this son of mine is a Sayyid (chief or master), and may Allaah make peace between two great groups of Muslims through him." ⁶

That came true by his resignation in favor of Mu'aawiyah ibn Abee Sufyaan⁷. Unity was achieved, and praise is to Allaah who vanquished the idea which the Jews propagated. However, they did not give up and are still planning against Muslims, as Allaah ﷻ Says:

﴿وَيَسْعَوْنَ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَسَادًا وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ﴾

"...And they (ever) strive to make mischief on the earth. And Allaah does not like the *Mufsideen* (mischief-makers)"

[Sooratul-Maa'idah (5):64]

They always scheme against Muslims in order to separate them. But Allaah the Most High always assigns someone to unite the Muslims and bring them together. Even if the ideal unity is not achieved just like the one that was during the time of the Rightly Guided predecessors and the period of Mu'aawiyah ؓ, yet unity is achieved in some Muslim countries and communities in every region and in every land. It has become different countries after it was only one united country, but every ruler in his country brings Muslims together, praise be to Allaah.

⁶ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree [4/2222 #7109] Kitaabul-Fitan Chapter Speech of the Prophet ﷺ to Hasan ibn 'Alee

⁷ EN: Al-Hasan brought peace between the people of Ash-Shaam and 'Iraq, after they fought great wars and terrifying battles.